



# **NEWS RELEASE**

**OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
(PUBLIC AFFAIRS)  
WASHINGTON, D.C. - 20301  
PLEASE NOTE DATE**

268

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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**      February 14, 1994

## **U. S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND KAZAKHSTAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON MILITARY RELATIONS**

Secretary of Defense William Perry announced today that the Department of Defense has signed a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation on Defense and Military Relations with the Ministry of Defense of Kazakhstan. A Statement of Principle concerning defense conversion matters was also signed.

The agreements were signed at the Pentagon by Secretary Perry and General of the Army Sagadat Nurmagambetov, minister of defense of Kazakhstan. The MOU signed today demonstrates the determination of both the United States and Kazakhstan to broaden interaction and consultations in the areas of defense and security.

Among other things, the memorandum:

- Establishes the basis for periodic exchanges between the U.S. Secretary of Defense and the Republic of Kazakhstan Minister of Defense, U.S. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Chief of the Main Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kazakhstan; and the counterpart CINCs, service chiefs and other key military leaders.
- Establishes annual meetings of the Bilateral Working Group on defense cooperation, at which, among other things, issues of expanding relations in the defense area will be examined.
- Encourages participation in the International Military Education and Training Program to facilitate communication and cooperation between officials of both countries.

The memorandum is the next step in a process of greater contact and cooperation between the United States and the Republic of Kazakhstan defense establishments.

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